

## CLAIMS

1.           A leather-like sheet material comprising a fibrous substrate and an elastomeric film layer which  
5       are bonded to each other through an adhesive layer that contains a silicone compound and that is formed from a water-soluble or water-dispersible elastic polymer.
2.           The leather-like sheet material of claim 1,  
10       wherein said silicone compound is water-soluble or water-dispersible.
3.           The leather-like sheet material of claim 1,  
15       wherein said adhesive layer further contains microcapsule particles charged with gas bubbles.
4.           The leather-like sheet material of claim 1,  
20       wherein said adhesive layer infiltrates the fibrous substrate for the bonding and has an infiltration thickness of 15 to 50  $\mu\text{m}$  from the fibrous substrate surface in its contact interface to the fibrous substrate.
5.           The leather-like sheet material of claim 1,  
25       wherein said adhesive layer is formed of at least two different layers and at least the layer on the fibrous substrate side contains the silicone compound.
6.           The leather-like sheet material of claim 1,  
30       wherein said adhesive layer is formed of at least two different layers, the layer on the fibrous substrate side contains the silicone compound and the other layer or other layer(s) contains microcapsule particles charged with gas bubbles.

7. The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said adhesive layer has a thickness of 30 to 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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8. The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said fibrous substrate is a composite material formed of fibers and an elastic polymer.

10 9. The leather-like sheet material of claim 8, wherein said elastic polymer is a polyurethane.

10. The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein fibers of said fibrous substrate contain  
15 ultrafine fibers formed of a polyester.

11. The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said elastomeric film layer has a thickness of 10 to 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

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12. The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, wherein said elastomeric film layer is a layer formed of a polyurethane.

25 13. The leather-like sheet material of claim 1, which has an organic solvent content of 0.05 % by weight or less.

14. A process for the production of a leather-like  
30 sheet material by attaching a fibrous substrate and an elastomeric film layer to each other, which comprises applying a water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing a silicone compound, to the attachment

surface of one of the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer and drying the applied solution or dispersion.

5 15. The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein the water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing a silicone compound, is applied to the attachment surface of said  
10 fibrous substrate, the water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer is applied to the attachment surface of the elastomeric film layer, and the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer are attached to each other, followed by drying.

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16. The process for the production of a leather-like sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein the water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing a silicone  
20 compound, is applied to the attachment surface of said fibrous substrate, the water solution or water dispersion of an elastic polymer, the water solution or water dispersion containing thermally expandable microcapsules, is applied to the attachment surface of  
25 the elastomeric film layer, and the fibrous substrate and the elastomeric film layer are attached to each other, followed by drying.

17. The process for the production of a leather-like  
30 sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein said fibrous substrate and said elastomeric film layer are attached to each other to cause the adhesive layer to infiltrate the fibrous substrate for the bonding, the adhesive layer having an infiltration thickness of 15 to

50  $\mu\text{m}$  from the fibrous substrate surface in its contact interface to the fibrous substrate.

18.       The process for the production of a leather-like  
5 sheet material as recited in claim 14, wherein said  
fibrous substrate and said elastomeric film layer are  
attached to each other and dried, and then the resultant  
set is nipped with a hot roll at a temperature of 100 to  
150°C.